Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: B-4583

Name: FLEET ST. OVER DRAINAGE CULVERT

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended __X____

Criteria: ____A ____B __X__C ____D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G __None

Comments: _____

_____

_____

Reviewer, OPS: Anne E. Bruder Date: 3 April 2001

Reviewer, NR Program: Peter E. Kurtze Date: 3 April 2001

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BRIDGES **MHT No.** B-4583
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION/
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

SHA Bridge No. BC 8020

LOCATION:
Street/Road name and number [facility carried] Fleet Street over Drainage Culvert for the Inner Harbor

City/town Baltimore **Vicinity** _____

County _____

This bridge projects over: Road_____ **Railway**____ **Water** X **Land** _____

Ownership: State _____ **County** _____ **Municipal** X **Other** _____

HISTORIC STATUS:
Is the bridge located within a designated historic district? Yes _____ **No** X
National Register-listed district _____ **National Register-determined-eligible district** _____
Locally-designated district _____ **Other** _____

Name of district _____

BRIDGE TYPE:
Timber Bridge :
Beam Bridge _____ **Truss -Covered** _____ **Trestle** _____ **Timber-And-Concrete** _____

Stone Arch Bridge _____

Metal Truss Bridge _____

Movable Bridge _____:
Swing _____ **Bascule Single Leaf** ____ **Bascule Multiple Leaf** ____
Vertical Lift _____ **Retractile**_____ **Pontoon** _____

Metal Girder X :
Rolled Girder _ **Rolled Girder Concrete Encased** _____
Plate Girder X **Plate Girder Concrete Encased** _____

Metal Suspension _____

Metal Arch _____

Metal Cantilever _____

Concrete _____:
Concrete Arch_____ **Concrete Slab**_____ **Concrete Beam** _____ **Rigid Frame** _____
Other _____ **Type Name** _____

B- 4583

DESCRIPTION:
Setting: Urban X **Small town** _____ **Rural** _____

Describe Setting:

Bridge Number BC 8020 carries Fleet Street in a generally east-west direction over a drainage culvert for the Inner Harbor in the City of Baltimore, Maryland. The approach to the roadway is level and has three lanes. The area around this bridge is urban and residential with warehouses and some businesses. The structures in this vicinity of this bridge are generally from the nineteenth century.

Bridge BC 8020 cannot be seen from the road. Fleet Street and its sidewalks completely cover the top of the bridge. This bridge is sometimes erroneously described as passing over Conrail. The Conrail tracks used to pass along Center Street across Fleet Street. Those tracks have been gone for many years.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge Number BC 8020 is a single span structure, measuring 26 feet in total length. Bridge Number BC 8020 is a steel plate girder structure. The roadway width from curb to curb is 26.3 feet and the total deck width is also 26.3 feet. There are no sidewalks on the bridge.

The superstructure is composed of steel plate girders and stringers system. There is one span in the main bridge unit and no approach units. The span is 24.5 feet long. There are 6 stringers in the structure. The stringer spacing averages five feet. The floor system is composed of concrete cast in place with a bituminous surface. There are no parapets. There is little ornamentation. There are no historical plaques. The substructure is composed of steel and concrete full height abutments.

The condition of this bridge is currently rated poor, with advanced section loss, deterioration, and spalling.

Discuss Major Alterations:

The deck on the bridge was replaced in 1992.

HISTORY:

WHEN was the bridge built: 1920
This date is: Actual _____ **Estimated** X
Source of date: Plaque _ **Design plans** _____ **County bridge files/inspection form** X **Other (specify):** _____

WHY was the bridge built?

Increased traffic density necessitated a structure with an increased load capacity.

WHO was the designer?

State Roads Commission

WHO was the builder?

State Roads Commission

WHY was the bridge altered?

The bridge was altered to ensure its structural integrity.

Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge-building campaign?

Unknown

SURVEYOR/HISTORIAN ANALYSIS:

This bridge may have National Register significance for its association with:
A - Events _____ B- Person _____
C- Engineering/architectural character _____

The bridge does not have National Register significance.

Was the bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?

No. World War One increased the rate of vehicular traffic throughout Maryland. This military traffic caused great damage to existing bridges, most of which were structurally designed for the new automobile and truck traffic. The Federal-Aid Road Act of July 16, 1916 provided matching funds to help alleviate the problem.

When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?

Yes. Bridge BC 8020 had a significant impact on the Fleet Street area. The ability to access the markets and employment potential of Baltimore City would have been seriously limited to locals had this bridge not been built. The steady outward growth of Baltimore City necessitated the steady growth of a sufficient transportation network. The construction of Bridge BC 8020 would have been a significant part of this development. The neighborhoods of the Inner Harbor would have all been directly impacted.

Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from the historic/visual character of the potential district?

Yes. Bridge BC 8020 is located in an area that has had an important and significant impact on the history of Baltimore, Maryland. The neighborhood of Fells Point is a vital segment of Baltimore history. This structure served both this neighborhood and the industries were the locals were employed. Fells Point is already eligible for historic designation and the expansion of any or all of these areas would entail the inclusion of this bridge. The loss of this bridge would negatively impact the historic and visual significance of these areas.

Does the bridge retain integrity of important elements described in Context Addendum?

No. Bridge Number BC 8020 does not retain important elements of its historical structural integrity.

Should the bridge be given further study before an evaluation of its significance is made?

No. This bridge does not retain sufficient elements of historical structural integrity to qualify for further study.

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1990 National Register Bulletin Number 15. National Park Service. Washington, D.C.

U.S. Department of Transportation
1991 Bridge Inspectors Manual. Federal Highway Administration. Washington, D.C.

SURVEYOR:

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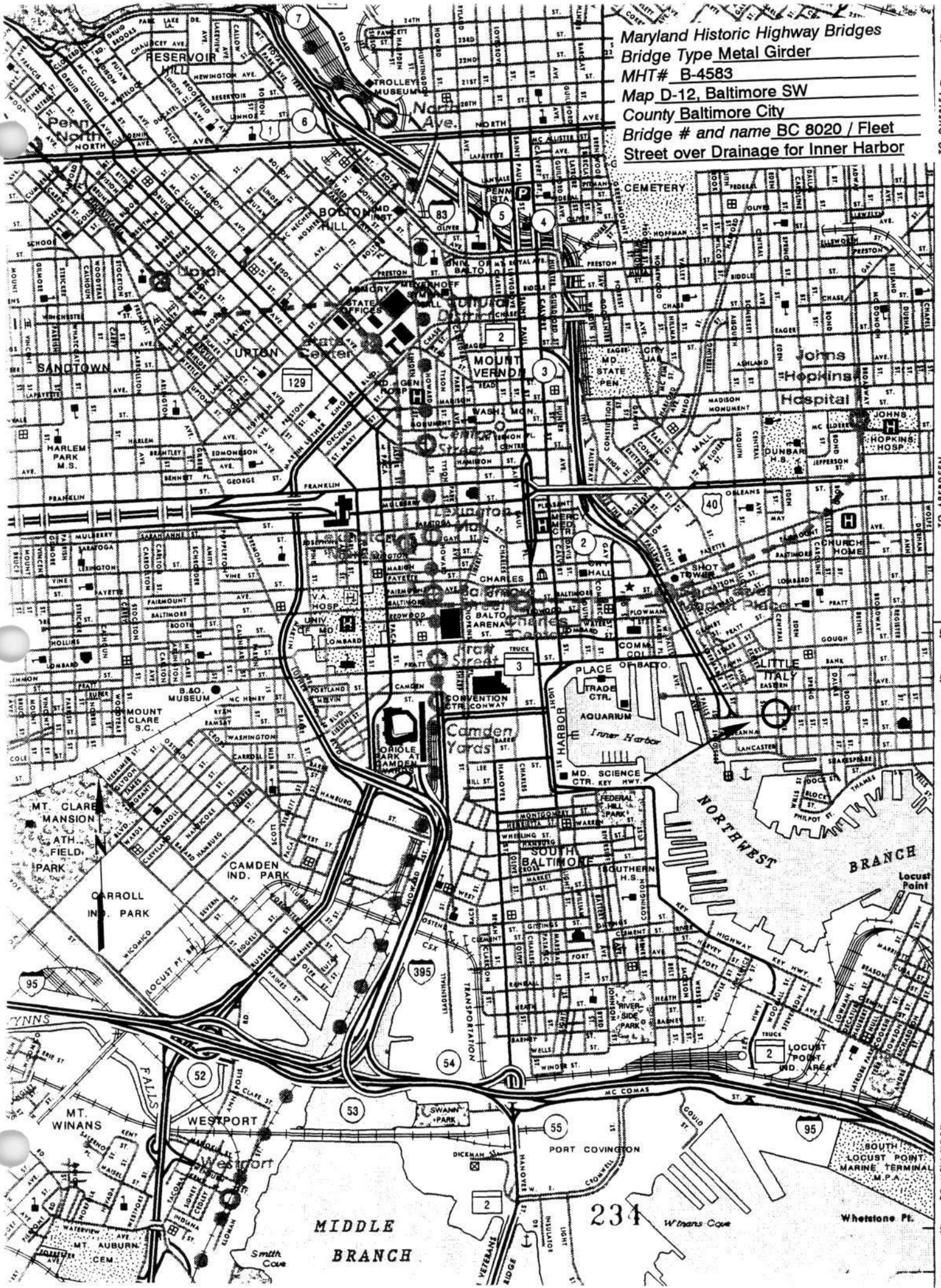
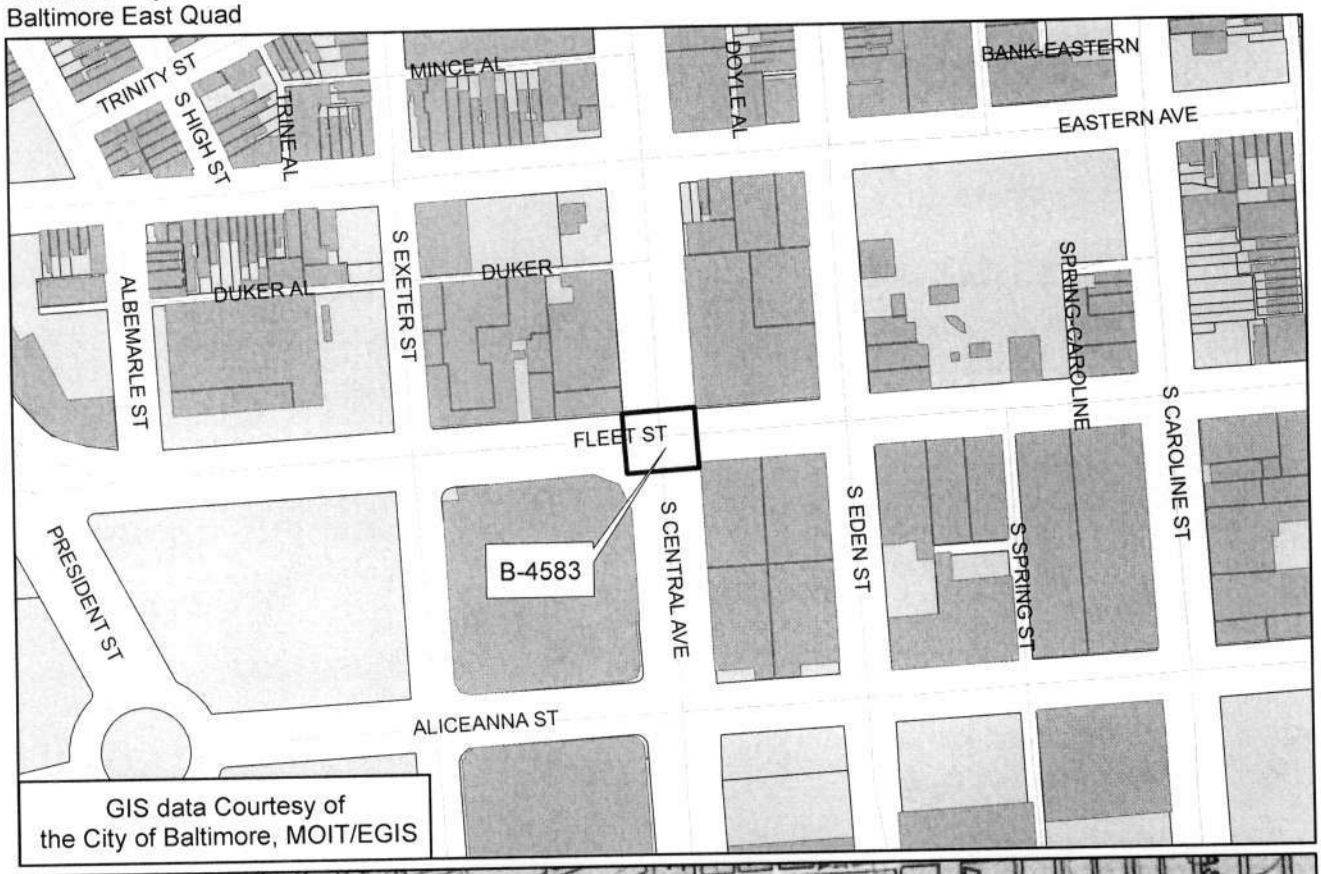
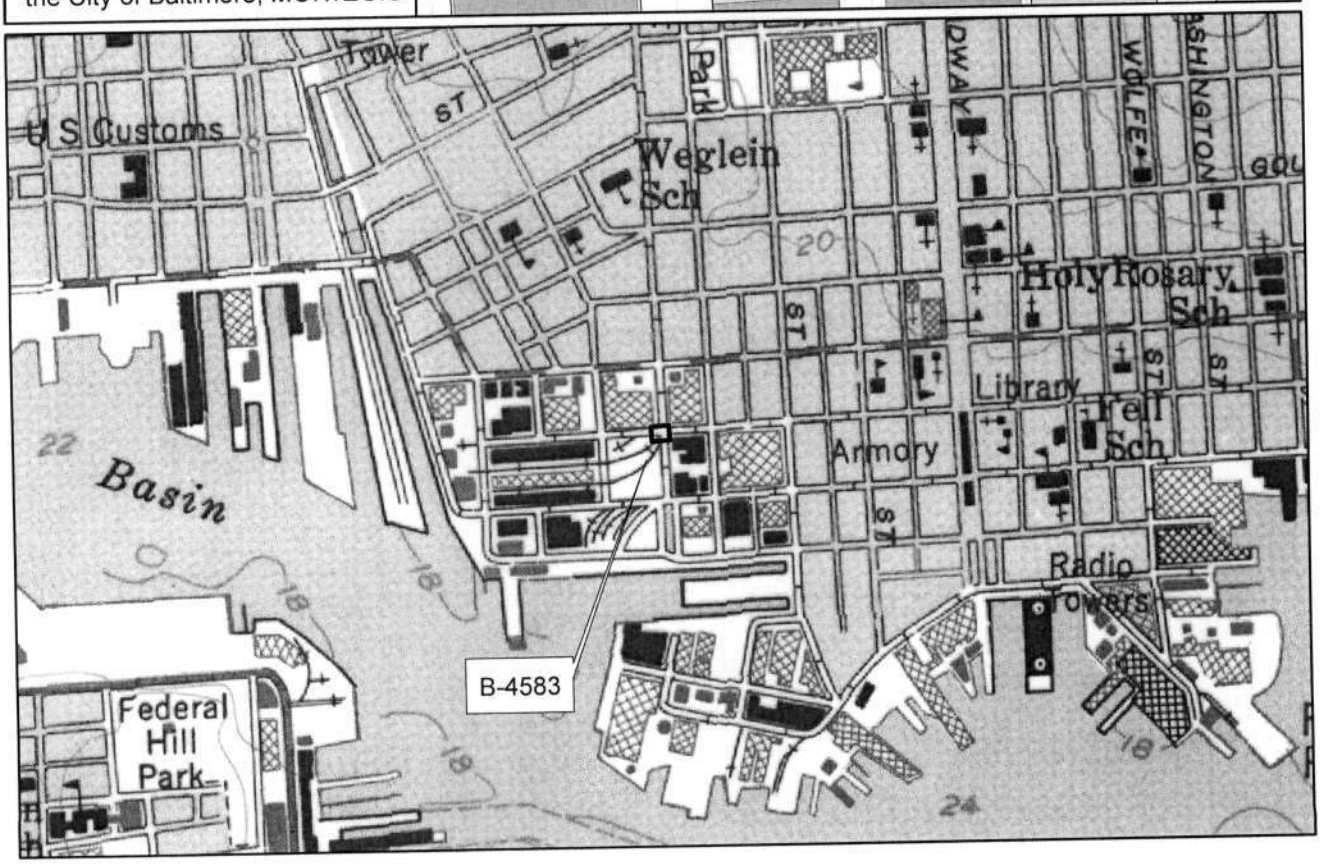
Address: 2323 West Joppa Road, Brooklandville, MD 21022
Revised by P.A.C. Spero & Company, April 1998


Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type Metal Girder
MHT# B-4583
Map D-12, Baltimore SW
County Baltimore City
Bridge # and name BC 8020 / Fleet Street over Drainage for Inner Harbor
TO OVERLEA
TO ABERDEEN
TO NEW YORK
540
600
530
590
520
580
RESERVOIR HILL
Penn North
North Ave.
TROLLEY MUSEUM
BOLTON HILL
CEMETERY
Penn Sta.
MD. INST.
SANDTOWN
UPTON
HARLEM PARK M.S.
MD. GEN. HOSP.
MOUNT VERNON
Johns Hopkins Hospital
JOHNS HOPKINS HOSP.
DUNBAR H.S.
MD. STATE PEN.
CITY JAIL
MADISON MONUMENT
WASH. MON.
Lexington Market
CHURCH HOME
SHOT TOWER
V.A. HOSP.
UNIV. OF MD.
BALTO. ARENA
COMM. COL.
LITTLE ITALY
PLACE OF BALTO.
TRADE CTR.
AQUARIUM
Inner Harbor
CONVENTION CTR.
CONWAY
B.&O. MUSEUM
MOUNT CLARE S.C.
ORIOLE PARK AT CAMDEN YARDS
Camden Yards
MD. SCIENCE CTR.
FEDERAL HILL PARK
SOUTH BALTIMORE
SOUTHERN H.S.
NORTHWEST BRANCH
Locust Point
MT. CLARE MANSION
ATH. FIELD
PARK
CAMDEN IND. PARK
CARROLL IND. PARK
LOCUST PT. IND. AREA
RIVER SIDE PARK
MT. WINANS
WESTPORT
Westport
SWANN PARK
PORT COVINGTON
SOUTH LOCUST POINT MARINE TERMINAL M.P.A.
Whetstone Pt.
MIDDLE BRANCH
Smith Cove
Winans Cove
234
FALLS
MC COMAS ST.
CSX
TRANSPORTATION
95
83
129
40
395

B-4583
Bridge 8020
Fleet Street over Drainage Culvert for the Inner Harbor
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad






Koldkiss

1. B-4583
2. BC 8020- Fleet Street over culvert
3. Baltimore Co, MD
4. Stuart Taub, WMA
5. 4/98
6. MD SHPO
7. east approach, view west
8. 1 of 3


SFI
Systems Furnitu
Installation

1. B-4583
2. BC8020 - Fleet Street over culvert
3. Baltimore Co, MD
4. Stuart Taub, WMA
5. 4/98
6. MD SHPO
7. west approach, view east
8. 2 of 3

1. B-4583
2. BC8020 - Flat Street over culvert
3. Baltimore Co, MD
4. Stuart Taub, WMA
5. 4/98
6. MD SHPO
7. outlet at Harbor South end of Central Avenue
8. 3 of 3